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ONE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BIRTH OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN.

THE LINCOLN CENTENNIAL AND THE LINCOLN CENTENNIAL ASSOCIATION.

CELEBRATION AT SPRINGFIELD.

"The organization of a Lincoln Centennial Association is a most worthy object, and one too long delayed in the martyr's home city.

Without any depreciation of the greatness of other men we have no hesitancy in saying Abraham Lincoln was the greatest of all men of whom history gives an account. More histories are written of him, and more papers, pages and volumes are published of him than of any other man, living or dead. He is known by all nations.

His life and character are the subjects of many eulogies and in no single instance does any person cast any aspersion upon that life and character, suggest any scandal, or apologize for or conceal any act done by him. His history has no counterpart anywhere.

The saying that 'a prophet is not without honor save in his own country' has not application in the case of Abraham Lincoln. His memory is revered and honored at his home and among those who knew him best in a far greater measure than is possible beyond 'his own country.' Their love and reverence is so great that it is taken for granted that the highest honor is paid to him and his memory, and the expression and demonstration of that respect and admiration have been neglected. But now attention is being called to the subject, it behooves all patriots to promote and become members of this association, which shall keep alive the memory of the immortal Lincoln, and which shall with the recurrent years bring home to the youth of the land the greatness of the man whose life was an exemplification of living with 'malice toward none.'"

The above article is copied from the Illinois State Journal and explains somewhat the objects of the Lincoln Centennial Association. All the world is looking at Illinois and particularly at Springfield as the time draws near for the celebration of the Lincoln Centennial. An association has been formed which is called the Lincoln Centennial Association. Its membership is not confined to citizens of Illinois and it has already a membership of representative men, especially Lincoln students and collectors from all parts of the country. This Association will give a banquet on the evening of February 12, 1909, at which the special guests and speakers will be Hon. Robert T. Lincoln, the only surviving child of Abraham Lincoln; Hon. James Bryce, British Ambassador to the United States; Hon. J. J. Jusserand, French Ambassador to the United States; Hon. William Jennings

Bryan; and Hon. J. P. Dolliver, United States Senator from Iowa. It is the intention of the Association to hold annual banquets on Lincoln's birthday, but, of course, the centennial anniversary will be more elaborate than the usual celebrations.

A large tabernacle is now in the course of erection in Springfield by the ministerial association of the churches of the city. This is being erected for the use of the Rev. William Sunday during his revival services in Springfield. It will be completed by the 12th of February and will be used for a large general meeting on that day. This will be the great public meeting in honor of Lincoln's Hundredth Anniversary. Able speakers will be present and appropriate music will be given.

Ten thousand buttons bearing a likeness of Abraham Lincoln will be distributed under the direction of the centennial association from Springfield. The buttons will be simple in design but will have one of the most popular portraits of the great emancipator and will be an attractive method of calling attention to the celebration to be held in Springfield, on the hundredth anniversary of his birth.

RECEPTION BY THE ILLINOIS STATE HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

The members of the Historical Society have already been notified by a circular letter which is again published in this number of the Journal, that the Society will hold a reception in the Library rooms, on the evening of Thursday, February 11th, in honor of the Lincoln Centennial. The collection of books, pictures, and manuscripts relating to the great emancipator will be conveniently arranged that the visitors may be able to see what the State is doing in the collecting of Lincolniana. The hours of the reception will be from eight to eleven o'clock. You are especially urged to attend.

DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION.

The Springfield Chapter Daughters of the American Revolution will hold a reception from five to seven o'clock in the afternoon of February 12th, at the Lincoln Home, Mrs. Donald McLean, the President General of the organization, will be in attendance and will deliver an address. The Chapter will also entertain visiting members of the D. A. R. at a supper at the Y. M. C. A. building.

GRAND ARMY OF THE REPUBLIC.

The G. A. R. and the Woman's Relief Corps, Sons of the American Revolution, the Illinois Colored Historical Society, and other patriotic and charitable organizations will observe the day by special celebrations.

We publish a letter from Hon. J. Otis Humphrey, the chairman of the Lincoln Centennial Association, which contains a general outline of the program of the exercises to be held in Springfield.

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SPRINGFIELD, ILL., Jan. 14, 1909.

Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber, Secretary Illinois State Historical Society:

MY DEAR MRS. WEBER—I am only just now able to make a reply to your communication in regard to the ceremonies for February 12th. The committee had a meeting today, and we have a tentative program in mind something like the following, but, of course, subject to such changes as may be found best to make.

February 11th—Exercises in all the schools of the city. If possible, prominent speakers from abroad will be furnished to some of the schools to help out their program. In the evening, a reception, given by the State Historical Society at the Capitol.

February 12th—Forenoon—Visit to Lincoln's Monument, with some appropriate exercises there; 2:30 p. m., public meeting at the tabernacle; 5:00 p. m. to 7 p. m., reception by D. A. R. at Lincoln's Home; 7:00 p. m., banquet at the Armory.

The committee are glad to know you have arranged for the reception at the rooms of the Historical Society, and we gladly incorporate that into our program for the day.

Yours sincerely,

J O. HUMPHREY.